

C2  
5. (Amended) The system defined in Claim 4, additionally comprising a pair of modems, wherein a first modem connects to the first computer via the remote interface and a second modem connects to the second computer, and wherein the first modem is in data communication with the second modem.

C3  
13. (Amended) The system defined in Claim 1, wherein the remote interface includes a power source which is independent of a power source for the first computer.

25/  
23. (Amended) A microcontroller [network] system for updating the system settings of a first computer, the microcontroller [network] system comprising:

a microcontroller bus; and

a plurality of microcontrollers that are interconnected by the microcontroller bus and wherein the microcontrollers manage the system settings of the first computer, and wherein a selected one of the microcontrollers communicates an update command to at least one of the other microcontrollers and supplies at least one item setting for updating the system settings.

C4  
26/  
24. (Amended) The [network] system defined in Claim 23, wherein the item setting is provided by a second computer.

27/  
25. (Amended) The [network] system defined in Claim 24, wherein the second computer utilizes a graphical user interface to obtain at least a portion of the item setting from a user.

28/  
26. (Amended) A microcontroller [network] system for [refreshing] retrieving the system status of a first computer having an environmental circuit, the microcontroller [network] system comprising:

a microcontroller bus; and

a plurality of microcontrollers that are interconnected by the microcontroller bus and wherein the microcontrollers manage the system status of the first computer, and wherein a

selected one of the microcontrollers communicates a **[refresh]** retrieve system status command to at least one of the other microcontrollers and retrieves system status information from the environmental circuit [for refreshing the system status].

<sup>29</sup>/<sub>27</sub>. (Amended) The **[network]** system defined in Claim <sup>28</sup>/<sub>26</sub>, wherein the system status is provided to a second computer.

<sup>30</sup>/<sub>28</sub>. (Amended) The **[network]** system defined in Claim <sup>29</sup>/<sub>27</sub>, wherein the second computer utilizes a graphical user interface to display at least a portion of the system status.

<sup>31</sup>/<sub>29</sub>. (Amended) A **[microcontroller network]** system for updating and retrieving system status information of a first computer, the **[microcontroller network]** system comprising:

a microcontroller bus;

a plurality of microcontrollers that are interconnected by the microcontroller bus, wherein at least one of the plurality of microcontrollers is configured to cause retrieval of status information or an update of an item setting; and

a recovery manager program executing on a second computer **[connected to]** in data communication with the microcontroller bus, the recovery manager program **[capable of managing]** configured to manage system status information of the first computer.

<sup>32</sup>/<sub>30</sub>. (Amended) The **[microcontroller network]** system of Claim <sup>31</sup>/<sub>29</sub>, wherein the recovery manager program obtains, via a graphical user interface, item settings utilized in updating the system status information in the first computer.

<sup>33</sup>/<sub>31</sub>. (Amended) The **[microcontroller network]** system of Claim <sup>31</sup>/<sub>29</sub>, wherein the recovery manager program displays the system status information retrieved from the first computer.

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<sup>34</sup>  
~~32~~. (Amended) The [**microcontroller network**] system of Claim ~~29~~<sup>31</sup>, wherein one of the microcontrollers is a remote interface.

<sup>35</sup>  
~~33~~. (Amended) The [**microcontroller network**] system of Claim ~~32~~<sup>34</sup>, wherein the remote interface [**interconnects the microcontroller network with**] provides a data communication path between the microcontroller bus and the recovery manager program.

<sup>15</sup>  
~~35~~. (Amended) The system defined in Claim 1, wherein the remote interface is directly connected to and proximately located to the first computer.

#### REMARKS

Applicant amends Claims 1, 5, 13, 23-33 and 35 by this paper. Claims 2-4, 6-12, 14-22, and 34 remain unchanged and are presented for examination. Reconsideration and allowance of all Claims 1-35 in light of the present remarks is respectfully requested.

#### Interview

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the personal interview on November 9, 1999. This amendment incorporates the helpful suggestions made by the Examiner. In particular, the claims have been amended as suggested during the interview.

#### Allowable Subject Matter

In the Office Action dated July 29, 1999, it was stated that Claims 17, 18, 21, and 22 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. During the personal interview, as noted on the Interview Summary form, the Examiner stated that independent Claims 14 and 19 are allowable. Therefore Claims 15-18 and 20-22, which are dependent on Claims 14 and 19, respectively, are also deemed allowable.